

1 MARKED-UP VERSION OF THE AMENDMENTS

2 Amendment to the Claims

3 In the Claims:

4 Please amend Claims 1, 13, 23, 25, and 26 as follows:

5 1. (Twice Amended) A flexible vehicular light source adapted to mount on and conform to a
6 shape of an external surface of a vehicle and to emit light that provides illumination of a surface over
7 which the vehicle is traveling, indicates an intention of a driver to turn or stop the vehicle, and/or
8 provides an indication of a location of the vehicle, said flexible vehicular light source comprising:

9 (a) a flexible substrate having a rear surface and a front surface, and including a
10 plurality of flexible conductive traces, said plurality of flexible conductive traces being adapted to
11 connect to an electrical system of a vehicle to receive an electrical current therefrom, said plurality of
12 flexible conductive traces being disposed in at least one of the following locations:

13 (i) on the rear surface of the flexible substrate;

14 (ii) on the front surface of the flexible substrate; and

15 (iii) within an internal portion of the flexible substrate;

16 (b) a plurality of solid-state light emitting devices mounted in a spaced-apart array
17 on the front surface of the flexible substrate, said array extending in two orthogonal directions, said
18 plurality of solid-state light emitting devices being electrically connected to the plurality of flexible
19 conductive traces and energized by the electrical current, emitting light outwardly and away from
20 said flexible substrate; and

21 (c) a transparent flexible envelope that extends over the plurality of solid-state
22 light emitting devices, providing protection against abrasion, the light emitted by the plurality of
23 solid-state light emitting devices passing through the transparent flexible envelope, said transparent
24 flexible envelope not covering the rear surface of the flexible substrate, so that the rear surface of the
25 flexible substrate [being] is adapted to mount on an exterior surface of a vehicle, said flexible
26 substrate, said spaced-apart array, and said transparent flexible envelope [and] being able to conform
27 to a non-planar curve of the exterior surface.

28 13. (Twice Amended) A flexible light emitting panel for application to an exterior surface of
29 a vehicle, comprising:

30 (a) a flexible substrate sized and shaped to cover a selected portion of an exterior
31 surface of a vehicle, said flexible substrate including a positive flexible conductive trace and a
32 negative flexible conductive trace, each flexible conductive trace being adapted to couple to an
33 electrical system of a vehicle to receive an electrical current;

34 (b) a plurality of solid-state light emitting devices [spaced apart over] mounted on
35 at least a defined portion of an outer surface of the flexible substrate [and mounted thereto] in a

1 spaced-apart array extending in two orthogonal directions, an anode of each solid-state light emitting
2 device being electrically connected to the positive flexible conductive trace and a cathode of each
3 solid-state light emitting device being electrically connected to the negative flexible conductive trace
4 so that an electrical current conveyed thereby is applied to energize each of the plurality of solid-state
5 light emitting devices, the plurality of solid-state light emitting devices so energized thereby emitting
6 light outwardly and away from said flexible substrate;

7 (c) a flexible protective, generally light transmitting cover overlying said plurality
8 of solid-state light emitting devices, but not overlying a rear surface of said flexible substrate, said
9 flexible substrate on which the solid-state light emitting devices are mounted and said flexible
10 protective cover comprising a flexible panel that is adapted to be affixed to and conform to the
11 exterior surface of a vehicle, even though the exterior surface is non-planar, producing light when the
12 solid-state light emitting devices are energized by the electrical current.

13 23. (Twice Amended) A method for providing external lighting for a vehicle, comprising the
14 steps of:

15 (a) providing a flexible substrate having an electrical conductor adapted to couple
16 to a source of electrical power on a vehicle, said flexible substrate having an upper surface and a
17 lower surface, the electrical conductor being disposed in at least one of the following locations:

18 (i) on the lower surface of the flexible substrate;

19 (ii) on the upper surface of the flexible substrate; and

20 (iii) within an internal portion of the flexible substrate;

21 (b) mounting a plurality of solid-state light emitting devices in a spaced-apart
22 array on the upper surface of the flexible substrate, so that the plurality of solid-state light emitting
23 devices are coupled to the electrical conductor, light emitted from the plurality of light sources when
24 they are energized being directed outwardly and away from the flexible substrate;

25 (c) protecting the plurality of solid-state light emitting devices with a flexible, generally
26 light transmissive cover that overlies the array of solid-state light emitting devices and also conforms to the
27 exterior, so that the flexible cover does not overlie the lower surface of the flexible substrate; and

28 (d) attaching the lower surface of the flexible substrate to an external surface of
29 the vehicle, so that the flexible substrate and the flexible generally light transmissive cover conform
30 to even a non-planar shape of the external surface.

31 25. (Amended) A multi-layered flexible vehicular light source adapted to mount on and
32 conform to a shape of an external surface of a vehicle and to emit light that provides illumination of a
33 surface over which the vehicle is traveling, indicates an intention of a driver to turn or stop the
34 vehicle, and/or provides an indication of a location of the vehicle, said flexible vehicular light source
35 comprising:

1 (a) a first flexible layer comprising a flexible substrate having a rear surface, a
2 front surface, and a plurality of edge surfaces, such that a surface area of both said rear surface and
3 said front surface are each individually substantially larger than a surface area of any of said edge
4 surfaces, said flexible substrate including a plurality of flexible conductive traces, said plurality of
5 flexible conductive traces being adapted to connect to an electrical system of a vehicle to receive an
6 electrical current therefrom;

7 (b) a second flexible layer comprising a plurality of solid-state light emitting devices
8 mounted in a spaced-apart array on the front surface of the flexible substrate, said array extending in two
9 orthogonal directions, said plurality of solid-state light emitting devices being electrically connected to the
10 plurality of flexible conductive traces and energized by the electrical current, thereby emitting light
11 outwardly and away from the front surface of the flexible substrate; and

12 (c) a third flexible layer comprising a transparent flexible envelope that extends
13 over the plurality of solid-state light emitting devices, and which does not cover the rear surface of
14 the flexible substrate, providing protection against abrasion, the light emitted by the plurality of
15 solid-state light emitting devices passing through the transparent flexible envelope, each flexible
16 layer having sufficient flexibility that when all three flexible layers are combined to achieve the
17 multi-layered flexible vehicular light source, the resulting multi-layered flexible vehicular light
18 source is sufficiently flexible to conform to a substantially non-planar surface.

19 26. (Amended) A multi-layered flexible vehicular light source adapted to mount on and conform
20 to a shape of an external surface of a vehicle and to emit light that provides illumination of a surface over
21 which the vehicle is traveling, indicates an intention of a driver to turn or stop the vehicle, and/or provides
22 an indication of a location of the vehicle, said flexible vehicular light source comprising:

23 (a) a first flexible layer comprising a flexible substrate having a rear surface, a front
24 surface, and a plurality of edges, such that a surface area of both said rear surface and said front surface
25 are each individually substantially larger than a surface area of any of said edges, said flexible substrate
26 including a plurality of flexible conductive traces, said plurality of flexible conductive traces being
27 adapted to connect to an electrical system of a vehicle to receive an electrical current therefrom;

28 (b) a second flexible layer comprising a plurality of solid-state light
29 emitting devices mounted in a high density array on the front surface of the flexible substrate, said
30 high density array having a size and shape substantially similar to a size and shape of the front
31 surface of the flexible substrate, such that substantially all of the front surface of the flexible substrate
32 is covered by the plurality of solid-state light emitting devices, the plurality of solid-state light
33 emitting devices being electrically connected to the plurality of flexible conductive traces and energized
34 by the electrical current, emitting light outwardly and away from the front surface of the flexible
35 substrate; and

1 (c) a third flexible layer comprising a transparent flexible envelope that extends
2 over the plurality of solid-state light emitting devices, but which does not cover the rear surface of the
3 flexible substrate, providing protection against abrasion, the light emitted by the plurality of
4 solid-state light emitting devices passing through the transparent flexible envelope, each flexible
5 layer having sufficient flexibility that when all three flexible layers are combined to achieve the
6 multi-layered flexible vehicular light source, the resulting multi-layered flexible vehicular light
7 source is sufficiently flexible to be able to conform to a substantially non-planar surface.
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